

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:66

ANSWERED ON:17.02.2006

SATELLITE TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has decided to install satellite telephone systems in inaccessible villages across India where even wireless telephone cannot reach;

(b) if so, the number of villages where satellite telephone systems is likely to be installed during 2006-07, State-wise;

(c) the details of villages where this satellite system is in operation till December 31, 2005, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which this system is likely to be installed in the remote villages of the country and the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon during the period?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund has entered into an agreement with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for installation of satellite telephone systems in 14,183 inaccessible villages across India where even wireless telephone cannot reach.

(b) A statement indicating State-wise number of villages where satellite telephone systems is likely to be installed during 2006-07 is given in Annexure.

(c) A statement indicating State-wise number of villages where satellite telephone systems are in operation till 31st December, 2005 is given in Annexure.

(d) As per the agreement of USOF with BSNL, these phones are to be installed by November 2007. However, efforts are on to install these phones by March, 2007. The estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon is about Rs. 226 crore.

ANNEXURE

STATE-WISE NUMBER OF VILLAGES TO BE PROVIDED WITH SATELLITE TELEPHONE SYSTEM DURING 2006-07 AND HAVING SATELLITE TELEPHONE SYSTEM AS ON 31.12.2005.

Sl No.	Name of State	Digital Phone	No. of Terminals planned	of Villages provided facility through satellite
				Rural areas
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	5	
2.	Andhra Pradesh	115	-	
3.	Assam	279	18	
4.	Bihar	0	-	
5.	Jharkhand	1694	-	
6.	Gujarat	0	-	
7.	Himachal Pradesh	275	16	
8.	Haryana	0	4	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	465	98	
10.	Karnataka	0	23	
11.	Kerala	0	-	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	443	-	
13.	Chhattisgarh	88	7	
14.	Maharashtra	483	-	
15.	Goa	13	-	
16.	Meghalaya	500	5	
17.	Mizoram	20	3	
18.	Tripura	58	3	
19.	Nagaland	16	9	

20	Manipur	730	8
21	Arunachal Pradesh	543	21
22	Orissa	4899	-
23	Punjab	0	-
24	Rajasthan	18	1
25	Tamil Nadu	0	33
26	Uttar Pradesh	0	-
27	Uttaranchal	3544	18
28	West Bengal	0	7
29	Sikkim	0	-